



# News Release

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## State disciplines health care providers

**OLYMPIA** -- The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 80 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "[Look up a healthcare provider license](#)" in the "How Do I?" section of the [Department of Health website](#) (doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are encouraged to call and report their complaint.

### Asotin County

In May 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program conditionally granted a certified nursing assistant credential to **Matthew Daniel Levi St. John** (NC60448801) and placed him on probation for at least two years due to a 2008 conviction on five counts of second-degree theft.

### Benton County

In May 2014 the Medical Assistant Program denied a registered medical assistant credential to **Sonja Mata** (MR60399608). In 2007 Mata was convicted of consumption of liquor by a minor, and in 2011 she was convicted of driving while intoxicated.

### Franklin County

In May 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program conditionally granted a certified nursing assistant credential to **Maria C. Herrera** (NC10082520), who must comply with conditions imposed on her medical assistant-phlebotomist credential.

### King County

In April 2014 the Occupational Therapy Board denied an occupational therapy assistant credential to **Ryan K. Dickey** (OC60336897). In 2013, while practicing under an occupational therapy assistant limited permit, Dickey disconnected a patient's IV tubing so the patient could participate in occupational therapy treatment. That was outside the scope of practice allowed under the permit.

In May 2014 the secretary of health granted an agency affiliated counselor credential to **Bruce Christopher Evans** (CG60412393), who will be monitored for at least two years. His registered counselor credential was suspended in 2009 due to sexual misconduct with a client.

In May 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional trainee credential to **Stephanie Mae Reavis** (CO60458385), placed her on probation, and ordered her to undergo evaluation for a substance abuse monitoring program. Between 2007 and 2010 Reavis was convicted of four felonies and 10 gross misdemeanors.

In May 2014 the Psychology Board ended conditions on the credential of psychologist **David L. Celio** (PY00000623).

In May 2014 the Dental Commission denied a dental assistant credential to **Stephanie Marie Arce** (D160322857). On her application, Arce didn't answer questions about her criminal history even though she had several convictions. In 2011 she was convicted of first-degree negligent driving; in 2012 she was convicted of reckless endangerment; and in 2013 she was found to be in violation of probation. The Department of Health also confirmed that Arce was subject to an outstanding arrest warrant, hadn't remained in contact with her probation officer, and didn't complete alcohol treatment.

In June 2014 the secretary of health ended probation for registered nursing assistant and health care assistant **Janice N. Lorenzana** (NA60111941, HC60321257).

### **Kitsap County**

In May 2014 the Nursing Commission denied a registered nurse credential to **Dhonifranz Catragena Blasa** (RN60441606), who in 2012 pled guilty to first-degree animal cruelty.

### **Lewis County**

In May 2014 the Agency Affiliated Counselor Program conditionally granted an agency affiliated counselor credential to **Brandon Perry Seeger** (CG60461724), placed him on probation, and ordered him to undergo evaluation for a substance abuse monitoring program. In 2009 Seeger was convicted of minor in possession. In 2010 he was convicted of two counts of delivery of a controlled substance (marijuana) and was convicted in Oregon of unlawful possession of marijuana.

### **Pierce County**

In April 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program denied a registered nursing assistant credential to **Klaudia Roswitha Sherrod** (NA60451344), who twice in 2013 was convicted of driving while intoxicated.

In May 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional trainee credential to **Holly Ann Smith** (CO60460732), placed her on probation and ordered her to undergo evaluation for a substance abuse monitoring program. In

2008 Smith was convicted of driving while intoxicated. In 2009 and again in 2011 she was convicted of third-degree theft.

In May 2014 the Agency Affiliated Counselor Program conditionally granted an agency affiliated counselor credential to **Kelly Virginia Holmes** (CG60452371), placed her on probation, and ordered her to undergo evaluation for a substance abuse monitoring program. Smith's license to practice medicine in Colorado was suspended in 1995 after she disclosed a cocaine addiction. It was revoked in 1997 after a relapse. On a statement to the Department of Health, Holmes signed her name followed by the initials "MD" and "MPH." In Washington, people may not represent themselves as practicing a profession without having a valid license to do so. Between 1999 and 2011, Holmes was convicted in Washington and Colorado of 11 criminal offenses.

In May 2014 the Nursing Commission charged licensed practical nurse **William Walter Wiles** (LP00044255) with unprofessional conduct. Allegations are that Wiles didn't comply with a stipulation requiring him to enroll in a substance abuse monitoring program.

In May 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Mary W. Njoroge** (NC60042210) with unprofessional conduct. The Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) suspended the license for the adult family home owned and operated by Njoroge at which she also worked as a nursing assistant. DSHS found widespread non-compliance with promoting health, safety, and well-being of residents in the home. Allegations say that Njoroge didn't check or assess a dementia patient who pulled a chair over and hit his head and that an Alzheimer's patient escaped from the home and was returned by law enforcement. A DSHS investigation also found that this patient's narcotic medication was missing as was necessary medication in a diabetes patient's emergency kit. Charges also state that Njoroge didn't report assaults that occurred between two residents and didn't contact a patient's physician about low-blood sugar episodes that resulted in that resident's hospitalization.

In May 2014 the secretary of health reinstated the registered nursing assistant credential of **Ina L. Qawasmeh** (NA00169184), which was suspended in 2009 when Qawasmeh didn't respond to charges after being convicted of third-degree assault-domestic violence.

In June 2014 the Massage Practitioner Program ended probation for Massage Practitioner **Theresa Michelle-Jewell Howell** (MA60208136).

### **Snohomish County**

In May 2014 the Medical Assistant Program charged certified medical assistant **Rachel Caroline Danger** (CM60374895) with unprofessional conduct. Danger allegedly admitted that she generated a prescription for a controlled substance under a doctor's name, without his permission.

In May 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional credential to **Robert Wesley Powell** (CP60428248). The program ordered Powell to continue with the substance abuse monitoring contract he agreed to when he was conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional trainee credential in 2012.

### **Spokane County**

In May 2014 the Dental Commission filed an amended statement of charges against dentist **Richard Dean Weigand** (DE00006078).

In May 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Nancye N. Hensz** (RN00172143) with unprofessional conduct. Hensz, who had signed substance abuse monitoring and referral contracts, allegedly tested positive for narcotics. She also admitted submitting synthetic urine for testing, diverting drugs from her employer, and taking her husband's narcotic medication.

In May 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Tammy J. Tucker** (NA60072620) with unprofessional conduct. Tucker allegedly diverted narcotics from her workplace and hasn't responded to Department of Health inquiries.

### **Thurston County**

In May 2014 the Massage Practitioner Program conditionally granted a massage practitioner credential to **Jineris Francis** (MA60459893) and ordered her not to engage in solo practice until she completes a court-ordered deferred prosecution agreement on a 2014 third-degree theft charge.

### **Yakima County**

In May 2014 the Dental Commission charged dentist **Nomita S. Mehta** (DE00008769) with unprofessional conduct. Mehta had a provider agreement with the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services. An audit indicated that 44 times, dental records in Mehta's office were altered or modified to justify services billed to and paid by DSHS, leading DSHS to end its agreement with Mehta.

**Note to Editors:** Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

The [Department of Health website](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).